

Governor Haley,

First off, let me say what a good job you are doing for the State of South Carolina and it's residents. I am contacting you in regards to an issue concerning higher education in the state. I contacted my Congressman about this matter and all I received was a generic email in return stating he received it. I am hoping by contacting you that this matter can be looked into.

Apparently, if you are under the age of 24 (as is my daughter) you have to claim dependency status on your FAFSA application. The issue that my daughter and I ran into is that yes, she is under 24, but she is also 100% independent. She pays her own rent, utility bills, etc. She is paying for her own college education. She is taking out student loans to do so. Her being 100% independent doesn't matter to the school. When she files for her FAFSA, she has had to provide my income which takes away from the amount of her grant. I do not support her financially so I don't agree with this policy. It does not seem just for a student who is trying to better their life by getting a degree.

I tried talking to the school about this matter but they wouldn't give me the time of day because the student, my daughter, is not a minor and they can't discuss her information with me. But they can use my income to take money from her? I ended up having to take time off of work to go to the school in person with my daughter to get answers. We were told that the only way that she wouldn't have to provide my income is if she were married, had a child, or was homeless. She was planning on getting married next year, but today went and applied for their marriage license. That is not fair to her or her fiancé.

This has become a Nation of entitlement. My daughter was raised to work for what you want. I am half tempted to tell her to quit her job and go on welfare where they will pay for her bills, food, education, etc. but that would go against my morals and hers, so I can't do that. There are also many immigrants

here who are having their educations paid for by the Government. How is it that a person who works and supports themselves can't get the help they need when needed?

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alison M. Kelly".

Alison M. Kelly

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